PROJECTION OF THE SOLI POPULATION, ZAMBIA

Wim van Binsbergen
Institute for African Studies, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia
1977

a demographic estimate made at the request of the Dutch Reformed Church Mission, Lusaka, Zambia
Projection of the soli population, Zambia

method: since independent we census of tribal
populations, latest figures from 1962: Annual Report
Min. of African Affairs, N. Rhodes, Livingstone. Then
the last mentioned 9% of African pop. N. Rhodes.

In the 1963 Census the Zambian Afr. pop. was
3,417,580. Despite variation in fertility rates among that
also in 1963 (one year after 1962) the sor. constituted 9%
of the African pop. Figures for later years are not
available and must be extrapolated from national
census censuses. The sor. are less fecile than some
Zambian tribes (e.g. Bemba), in fact the fertility is
on the low side considered nationally. Therefore, two estimates
are given: (1) on the basis of total growth of Zambian
population: annual growth rate 2.5% from
1963–1969, and 2.0% in later years
(2) since international migration has not increased
the sor. tribal pop., and the sor. participate in
urban life (with somewhat higher fertility rates),
I estimated that the continuation growth

estimated is of the same magnitude as that of
Southern Province: 1963–1969: 1.2% per annum

The figures shown in the graph are computed
with compound interest.

W. van Binsbergen
I.A.S., Lusaka.

Ref: Kay, A brief geography of

Central Statistical Office, Livingstone Report:
Sample Census of the Population 1974,
Lusaka, 1975, p. 6
idee, Regional variation in fertility in